

**Thomas D. White National Defense Award**  
**Selection Guidelines**

USAFA's third Superintendent, Major General William S. Stone, established the Thomas D. White National Defense Award 1 March 1962, in honor of then-Air Force Chief of Staff, Gen Thomas D. White. Given annually, it memorializes a U.S. citizen's contributions to the security and defense of our great nation.

**Award Criteria:**

- US citizen who has contributed significantly to national defense and security
- Any field of endeavor (e.g., science, technology, leadership, national and/or international affairs)
- Federal employees, including military, are eligible upon termination from government service. Only under special circumstances will current federal employees be considered for nomination.
- A deceased citizen may be nominated and presented the award posthumously, if death occurred since nominations were last made (normally the end of the previous calendar year).
- Should circumstances warrant, the above guidelines may be relaxed.
- Please feel free to contact HQ USAFA/XP if you have any questions concerning these criteria.

**Selection Process:**

- Academy (XP) requests nominations from USAF Academy agencies and Board of Visitors members
- Nomination packages are screened for appropriateness and validity
- Selection committee (consisting of USAF Academy Senior leadership) reviews packages to determine the award recipient

**Previous Honorees:**

1962	Dr. Edward Teller	1986	Senator Stuart Symington
1963	Dr. Theodore Von Karman	1987	Senator Sam Nunn
1964	The Honorable Carl Vinson	1988	The Honorable Caspar W. Weinberger
1965	General Curtis E. LeMay, USAF, Retired	1989	President Ronald Reagan
1966	Mr. Clarence L. (Kelly) Johnson	1990	Admiral William J. Crowe, USN, Retired
1967	Lieutenant General James H. Doolittle, USAF, Retired	1991	General Larry D. Welch, USAF, Retired
1968	General Carl Spaatz, USAF, Retired	1992	Dr. Malcolm R. Currie
1969	Lieutenant General Ira C. Eaker, USAF, Retired	1993	Lieutenant General Brent C. Scowcroft, USA, Retired
1970	Dr. Charles Stark Draper	1994	President George H. W. Bush
1971	Mr. Igor I. Sikorsky	1995	Lieutenant General Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., USAF, Retired
1972	General Nathan F. Twining, USAF, Retired	1996	General Charles A. Gabriel, USAF, Retired
1973	General Bernard A. Schriever, USAF, Retired	1997	Senator John McCain
1974	General Lauris Norstad, USAF, Retired	1998	General Colin L. Powell, USA, Retired
1975	Senator John C. Stennis	1999	Senator Strom Thurmond
1976	General John D. Ryan, USAF, Retired	2000	Congressman Floyd D. Spence
1977	Mr. Bob Hope	2001	Congressman C.W. Bill Young
1978	Senator Barry M. Goldwater	2002	The Honorable Norman R. Augustine
1979	General George S. Brown, USAF, Retired	2003	The Honorable Duncan Hunter
1980	The Honorable Dr. Robert C. Seamans, Jr.	2004	Colonel John Boyd, USAF, Retired
1981	The Honorable David Packard	2005	General Richard B. Myers, USAF, Retired
1982	The Honorable Melvin Laird		
1983	General Russell E. Dougherty, USAF, Retired		
1984	Senator John G. Tower		
1985	General T. Ross Milton, USAF, Retired		